

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) No such proposal is under consideration in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power (Department of Irrigation).

(b) Does not arise.

Increase in Power Rates in Delhi

4410. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to raise the power rates in Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons and justification therefor; and

(c) the date from which the power rates are proposed to be increased with reaction of the public thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) to (c). Tariff rates for supply of electricity in Delhi have been increased with effect from 9.4.1985. The increase had become necessary as the costs of inputs of power generation and supply have increased since DESU last fixed its tariff in April, 1979. The increase does not affect low and middle income households and agriculturists.

Flyash from Badarpur Thermal Power Plant

4411. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether residents of South Delhi have complained against the flyash from the chimneys of Badarpur Thermal Power Plant which gets into their houses;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Badarpur Thermal Power Plant authorities are taking action to install additional fly-ash precipitation equipment in its 3 × 100 MW generating units.

Proposal for Assistance to States Spending Higher Amount of Education

4412. SHRI K. MOHANDAS : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any special proposal to give additional financial assistance to the States which spend higher amount on education; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Train Accident near Tundla

4413. SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a train accident took place near Tundla recently in which many persons were injured; and

(b) if so, the causes of the accident ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) In the accident which occurred near Tundla on 28.3.85, 3 Railways employees sustained injuries.

(b) The cause of the accident is under enquiry.

Shortage of Medicines in Government Hospitals and free Medicines to all Citizens

4414. SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a acute shortage of medicines in Government hospitals in the country and patients have to purchase medicines from market; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard and the time by which Government will be able to provide free medical treatment aid to all the citizens ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) The Central Government has not received any specific complaint in respect of any State Government hospital where medicines are in short supply. The Central Government hospitals viz. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, Safdarjang Hospital etc. have requisite stocks for meeting their normal requirement of medicines.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

**Re-introduction of Puri-Palsa
Passenger Train**

4415. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have withdrawn the Puri-Palsa passenger train;

(b) if so, since when and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there has been growing demand for the re-introduction of that passenger train; and

(d) if so, when the Puri-Palsa passenger train is proposed to be re-introduced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b). 219/220 Puri-Palsa passenger train was withdrawn from 22.2.1985 due to very poor patronisation.

(c) and (d). On persistent demand from public as well as from Government of Orissa, the train has been re-introduced from 5.4.1985.

**Number of Ships Called and Cargo
Handled at Calcutta Port**

4416. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state the number of ships called at the Calcutta Port and total tonnage of cargo loaded and unloaded during the years 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : The number of ships which called at and cargo handled through Calcutta Port including the Haldia Dock Complex during the years 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 was as under :

(In '000' tonnes)

Year	No. of ships called	Cargo loaded	Gargo unloaded	Total cargo handled
1982-83	1264	3607	7084	10691
1983-84	1161	3530	6938	10468
1984-85	1136	3340	6999	10339